

Serial No. 10/791,088
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P18158US

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A method for cooling thermally stressed regions in a turbo machine, comprising:

flowing a flow medium through the turbo machine and exiting the flow medium in an exhaust-steam region during operation of the turbo machine;

flowing a portion of the flow medium from a live-steam feed line to a heat exchanger;

cooling the flow medium by the heat exchanger before the flow medium enters the turbo machine by no more than 60 °C;

flowing the cooled flow medium into the turbo machine via an inflow region; and

cooling the thermally stressed regions that are located in the inflow region by the flow medium that has been cooled by the heat exchanger.

2. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heat exchanger is located in the exhaust-steam region of the turbo machine.

3. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the portion of the flow medium that enters the heat exchanger is removed downstream of a shut-off valve located in the live-steam feed line.

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the temperature of the portion of the flow medium cooled in the heat exchanger is at least 10°C below the temperature of the live steam.

5. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the temperature of the portion of the flow medium cooled in the heat exchanger is at least 20°C below the temperature of the live steam.

Serial No. 10/791,088
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P18158US

6. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the portion of the flow medium cooled by the heat exchanger is passed to a thrust-compensating piston.

7. (currently amended) A turbo machine, comprising:
a live-steam feed line through which a flow medium flows and leading to a live-steam inflow region, the live-steam feed line having a branch with which part of the flow medium is passed via a line to a heat exchanger;
an exhaust-steam region; and
a feed line arranged downstream of the heat exchanger leading into an inflow region having a thrust compensating piston of the turbo machine,
wherein the entire volume of exhaust steam flows through the heat exchanger.

8. (previously presented) The turbo machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the heat exchanger is arranged in the exhaust-steam region of the turbo machine.

9. (previously presented) The turbo machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the live-steam feed line has a shut-off valve located upstream of the branch.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A turbo machine having selectively cooled internal components, comprising:
a live-feed flow line that flows a medium through a turbo machine and exits into an exhaust region;
a branch line to extend from the live-feed line adapted to pass a greater than 10% portion of the flow medium to a heat exchanger; and
a feed line arranged downstream of the heat exchanger leading into an inflow region of the turbo machine.

12. (previously presented) The turbo machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the heat exchanger is located in the exhaust-steam region of the turbo machine.

Serial No. 10/791,088
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P18158US

13. (previously presented) The turbo machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the live-steam feed line has a shut-off valve located upstream of the branch.

14. (previously presented) The turbo machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the feed line downstream of the heat exchanger supplies flow to a thrust-compensating piston.